

MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

2025 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

9-11 September 2025

Scripps Seaside Forum

8610 Kennel Way, La Jolla, CA 92037



Tuesday, 9 September 2025

1:00 PM - 1:15 PM	Welcome, and Introduction to the Meeting <i>Peter Thomas, Marine Mammal Commission (MMC)</i>
1:15 PM - 2:45 PM	Eyes in the Sky: Emerging technologies for remote detection and assessment <i>Moderator: Jason Baker, MMC</i>
1:15 - 1:20	Session introduction <i>Jason Baker, MMC</i>
1:20 - 1:45	Geospatial Artificial Intelligence for Animals (GAIA) Introduction to GAIA <i>Christin Khan, NOAA Northeast Fisheries Science Center</i> Open-Source Preprocessing Workflow for Maxar's Level 1B Satellite Enhance Detection & Identification of Marine Mammals <i>Kim Goetz, NOAA Alaska Fisheries Science Center</i>
1:45 - 2:05	Estimating Minimum Population Size from Satellite Monitoring <i>Tony Fischbach*, USGS Alaska Science Center</i>
2:05 - 2:25	Satellite Detection of Whales <i>Darcy Bradley*, The Nature Conservancy</i>
2:30 - 2:45	Satellites to study live and stranded whales: How satellite imagery is giving insights for whale conservation <i>Penny Clark*, British Antarctic Survey</i>
2:45 PM - 3:15 PM	Break
3:45 PM - 4:15 PM	Eyes in the Sky Discussion <i>Additional Panelists:</i> <i>David Johnston*, Duke University</i>

4:15 PM - 4:30 PM

Day 1 Wrap-Up

Wednesday, 10 September 2025

9:00 AM - 9:05 AM

Welcome and Logistics Updates

Peter Thomas, MMC

9:05 AM - 10:45 AM

Reducing Impact through Innovation: Innovative and less-invasive sampling methods for health and population assessment

Moderator: Randall Wells, Brookfield Zoo Chicago's Sarasota Dolphin Research Program and MMC

9:05 - 9:20

Session introduction and latest on remote tag deployment with the TADpole

Randall Wells, Brookfield Zoo Chicago's Sarasota Dolphin Research Program and MMC

9:20 - 9:40

UAS-based deployments of suction cup attached biologging tags

Chris Zadra, Ocean Alliance

9:40 – 9:55

Development of a minimally-invasive blood collection device for cetaceans

Cynthia Smith, National Marine Mammal Foundation

9:55 - 10:15

Harnessing emerging technologies for a non-invasive approach to marine mammal energetics

Michelle Shero, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution*

10:15 - 10:30

Advances in eDNA monitoring of marine mammals: Current capabilities and future directions

Ryan Kelly, University of Washington*

10:30 - 10:45

What can epigenetics tell us about aging and health of marine mammals?

Ashley Barratclough, National Marine Mammal Foundation

10:45 AM - 11:15 AM

Break

11:15 AM - 12:00PM

Reducing Impact through Innovation Discussion

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Lunch

1:30 PM - 2:55 PM	Connecting the Dots: Innovative and integrated quantitative methods for assessing populations <i>Moderator: Aaron Thode, UC San Diego Scripps Institution of Oceanography and MMC</i>
1:30 - 1:35	Introduction <i>Aaron Thode, UC San Diego Scripps Institution of Oceanography and MMC</i>
1:35 - 1:55	Understanding North Atlantic right whale abundance and distribution through data fusion <i>Rob Schick*, Southall Environmental Associates Inc. and Duke University</i>
1:55 - 2:15	Advancing acoustics for integrated population assessment <i>Kait Frasier, UC San Diego Scripps Institution of Oceanography</i>
2:15 - 2:35	Integrating multiple information types to improve estimates of large whale entanglement mortality and serious injury <i>Jeff Moore, NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center</i>
2:35 - 2:55	Modelling population consequences of multiple stressors: from individual response to population dynamics <i>Leslie New, Ursinus College</i>
2:55 PM - 3:30 PM	Break
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Connecting the Dots Discussion
4:30 PM - 4:45 PM	Day 2 Wrap-Up

Thursday, 11 September 2025

9:00 AM - 9:10 AM	Welcome and Logistics Updates <i>Peter Thomas, MMC</i>
9:10 AM - 10:30 AM	Regional Updates: Hot Topics in the California Current Ecosystem <i>Moderator: Karin Forney, NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center and MMC</i>
9:10 - 9:30	Wrap up of previous sessions: challenges to transitioning to emerging technologies and why there is an ongoing need for established approaches; followed by an introduction of regional updates <i>Karin Forney, NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center and MMC</i>

9:30 - 9:50	<p>Using climate-ready information in decision making for multiple stakeholders</p> <p><i>Elliott Hazen*, NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center</i></p>
9:50 - 10:10	<p>Collaborative approaches to addressing whale entanglement</p> <p><i>Ryan Bartling*, California Department of Fish and Wildlife</i></p>
10:10 - 10:30	<p>Monitoring the status of eastern North Pacific gray whales</p> <p><i>Aimée Lang*, NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center</i></p>
10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Break
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Regional Updates: Hot Topics in the California Current Ecosystem Continued
11:00 - 11:20	<p>Are we in a new era of marine mammal mortality events associated with harmful algal blooms in California?</p> <p><i>Clarissa Anderson, Southern California Current Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS) and UC San Diego Scripps Institution of Oceanography</i></p>
11:20 AM - 12:00 PM	<p>Closing Discussion</p> <p><i>Moderated by Sue Moore, MMC</i></p>
12:00 - 12:30 PM	Open for Public Comment
12:30 PM	Meeting Adjourn